

RAILWAYS

Summary of Questions Asked

1) *Nahur Railway Station :*

The demand of Nahur Railway Station was pending with the Ministry since 1961. It was refused. With the follow up for last 3 years now the dream of "Nahur" is accepted, financial provision of Rs. 2 crore made, work to start.

2) *Kurla-Thane Six Line Project :*

Consistent follow up. Actually though it is a part of MUTP implementation of which started just now. Mr. Somaiya with the help of others has got this project sanctioned and implemented well in advance.

3) *Passenger Amenities :*

More reservation centers, computerization, extension counters, new booking offices at various Railway Stations of his constituency are sanctioned and started. Almost all 10 Railway Stations from Mankhurd to Kurla to Mulund are covered.

4) *Rehabilitation of slums at Railway Lines :*

Rehabilitation of slums, etc. has got momentum. 10600 slums have been relocated.

LOK SABHA

QUESTION NO 655

ANSWERED ON 21.11.2002

NEW HALT STATION AT NAHUR MUMBAI

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:-

- (a) whether the Government propose to construct a halt/railway station at Nahur in Mumbai;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the amount allocated therefor;
- (c) the present status of the said project; and
- (d) the time by which the work is likely to be completed on the project?

ANSWER

- (a) Yes, Sir.
- (b) to (d): A new halt station has been sanctioned recently at Nahur between Bhandup & Mulund stations in Mumbai. The sanction is, however, subject to provision of land by the State Government free of cost/at nominal charges. A formal proposal for acquisition of 1745 square metre of land and making it available to the Railway by State Government has been submitted to the State Government.

As the whole proposal is dependent upon the availability of land which is yet to be provided by the State Government, no specific details regarding funds, time frame, etc. can be furnished presently.

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LOK SABHA

QUESTION NO 1150

ANSWERED ON 01.03.2001

PALACE ON WHEEL IN DIFFERENT STATES

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:-

- (a) whether some State Governments have made joint venture with the Railways to start "Palace on Wheel" type of trains in their States;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether operational details have been worked out in this regard;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the time by which these trains are likely to be started?

ANSWER

- (a) & (b) : Indian Railways have signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Government of Maharashtra on 7th February, 2001 for running a "Palace on Wheel" type train on Mumbai – Ratnagiri – Sindhudurg – Goa – Pune – Aurangabad (Ajanta & Ellora) – Mumbai circuit.
- (c) & (d) : Yes, Sir, the Railways will provide the bare shells of the rake and all facilities necessary for the operation of the train. The entire cost of furnishing the rake, Air Conditioning and other coach equipment fittings will be borne by the Maharashtra Tourism Development Corporation who will also be responsible for housekeeping hospitality services and sight-seeing.
- (e) The luxury train is likely to start during the current year.

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LOK SABHA

QUESTION NO 625

ANSWERED ON 18.07.2002

NEW RAILWAY STATION IN MUMBAI

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:-

- (a) whether the Government propose to set up more railway stations in Mumbai;
- (b) if so, whether he has discussed with Central Railway officials regarding the need of setting up of new railway stations in Mumbai during his Mumbai visit on April 16,2002;
- (c) if so, the locations identified for setting up of new railway stations in Mumbai;
- (d) whether any survey has been conducted by the Government in this regard; and
- (e) if so, the time by which these stations are likely to be set up?

ANSWER

(a) to (e) : During his visit to Mumbai on 16.04.2002, Minister of Railways discussed the need for two new Railway Stations with Central Railway. The locations discussed were near Mental Hospital at Thane and at Nahur between Mulund and Bhandup. Studies have been conducted by Railways for setting up the stations at these locations. It is not feasible to locate a station/suburban terminal near Mental Hospital at Thane. It has been decided to set up a halt station at Nahur. Time of commissioning of the station will depend upon the availability of funds.

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LOK SABHA

QUESTION NO 3344

ANSWERED ON 16.03.2000

LAYING OF NEW RAILWAY LINES BETWEEN KURLA AND THANE

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:-

- (a) whether the work relating to laying of two new railway lines between Kurla and Thane has since been stopped by the Central Railways;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the steps taken by the Government to re-start the above work?

ANSWER

- (a) No Sir.
- (b) & (c) Do not arise.

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LOK SABHA

QUESTION NO 2999

ANSWERED ON 10.08.2000

ADDITIONAL LINES BETWEEN KURLA-THANE

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:-

- (a) whether Railway Authority have finalised the completion schedule of Kurla-Thane (Mumbai) additional lines project;
- (b) whether the resettlement programme of hutments near Vikhroli and Bhandup has been finalised;
- (c) if so, the reasons for delay of above project;
- (d) the budgetary provision made for this project during 1999-2000 and 2000-2001 and the amount released so far; and
- (e) the present status of the project?

ANSWER

a) to e) A statement is attached.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2999 BY SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA TO BE ANSWERED ON 10.08.2000 REGARDING ADDITIONAL LINES BETWEEN KURLA-THANE.

- a) Yes Sir. The project is likely to be completed by March 2002.
- b) The project is a part of Mumbai Urban Transport Project- II (MUTP-II). Rehabilitation & Resettlement (R&R) of hutments of MUTP projects is being handled by Project Monitoring Unit set up in Mumbai Metropolitan Region Development Authority. They have tentatively finalised the R&R programme of shifting the hutment dwellers in transit accommodation by December, 2000 and in permanent tenements by December, 2002.
- c) The time taken in resettlement of hutment dwellers has delayed the completion of the project.
- d) During the year 1999-2000, Rs.40 crores was provided and out of that Rs.27.90 crores was utilised. In the current year i.e. 2000-2001, a provision of Rs.24 crores has been made.
- e) The project has been sanctioned in two phases:-
 - i) Kurla –Bhandup (10 kms.- Phase-I:- Physical progress of the project at the end of March, 2000 was 50% and financial progress was 48.87%.
 - ii) Bhandup-Thane (7 kms) Phase-II:- Physical progress of the project at the end of March, 2000 was 22% and financial progress was 20.51%.

Progress of work has been affected due to time taken in acquisition of land and removal of encroachments.

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LOK SABHA

QUESTION NO 3843

ANSWERED ON 22.03.2001

CONSTRUCTION OF FOOT OVER BRIDGES IN MUMBAI

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:-

- (a) the number of foot over bridges at different railway stations in Mumbai sanctioned, works completed, works going on and work to be commenced during the last three years, year-wise;
- (b) the total cost involved in these projects;
- (c) whether accidents take place on crossing the lines due to non-availability of foot over bridges in different railway stations;
- (d) whether the Government propose to construct some more foot over bridges in these stations; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor ?

ANSWER

- (a) Details of Foot Over Bridges sanctioned at different Railway stations in Mumbai during 1998-99, 1999-2000 and 2000-2001 and the position thereof are as under:

Years	Works sanctioned	Works completed	Works in Progress	To be Commenced
1998-1999	1	-	1	-
1999-2000	6	2	2	2
2000-2001	3	3	-	-

- (b) Total cost involved in these project is Rs. 7.96 crore.
- (c) All stations in Mumbai are provided with Foot Over Bridges/Subways. Accidents take place, only when people/passengers attempt to cross the railway tracks unauthorisedly.
- (d) Yes, Sir.

(e) List of Foot Over Bridges proposed for construction in Mumbai area in future is given as under:

S.No.	Name of Station	Cost (Rs. in lakhs)
1.	Vangani	35.17
2.	Dockyard	31.94
3.	Cotton Green	30.38
4.	Dombivli	281.00
5.	Ghatkopar	231.00
6.	Matunga Road	25.15
7.	Bandra (Extension of existing FOB)	48.02
8.	Andheri (Extension of existing FOB)	73.19

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LOK SABHA

QUESTION NO 2725

ANSWERED ON 09.08.2001

SURVEY FOR KURLA MAHUL RAIL LINE IN MAHARASHTRA.

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:-

- (a) whether the Railways have done any survey on Kurla-Mahul Railway line segment in Mumbai sub-urban area;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Railways have agreed to do latest survey of Kurla-Mahul railway route; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

(a) & (b) : No, Sir.

(b) & (d) : Do not arise.

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LOKSABHA

QUESTION NO 1830

ANSWERED ON 14.03.2002

**DIVERSIFICATION OF THE ACTIVITIES
OF KONKAN RAILWAYS**

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:-

- (a) whether the Ministry has decided to diversify the activities of Konkan Railway;
- (b) if so, whether Konkan Railway is trying to get project outside India;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the details about the Sky-bus proposal for Mumbai bound Konkan Railway Corporation and the name of the authority supplying it;
- (d) whether Railway Ministry is going to contribute financially;
- (e) whether the precautions will be taken to see that it does not become burden on Konkan Railway and Railway Ministry;
- (f) whether Konkan Railway Management has consulted Railway Ministry in this regard;
- (g) whether the State Government and contractor are taking full financial responsibilities; and
- (h) if so, the details about the plan, directions, actions and guidelines thereof?

ANSWER

(a) to (h): A statement is attached.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (h) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1830 BY SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA TO BE ANSWERED ON 14.03.2002 REGARDING DIVERSIFICATION OF THE ACTIVITIES OF KONKAN RAILWAYS

- (a) All the activities of the Konkan Railway are as per authority given to them by their Memorandum and Articles of Association.
- (b) Yes, Sir.
- (c) A Memorandum of Understanding has been signed with Govt. of Iraq covering various aspects of cooperation in railway sector, such as new railway projects, Sky-bus Metro, Sleeper Factory, Exchange of expertise & training, Supply of services, materials & equipments, etc. through Konkan Railway Corporation. In addition, KRCL is also pursuing the Sky-bus Metro projects with various other countries, such as Saudi Arabia, Syria etc. KRCL is also pursuing Sky-bus Metro projects with various State Governments i.e. Maharashtra, Kerala, Delhi etc.
- (d) No, Sir.
- (e) Yes, Sir.
- (f) Konkan Railway Management is competent to undertake such activities within the purview of their Memorandum and Articles of Association. However, they inform the Ministry of such activities from time to time.
- (g) No such agreement has been entered into with State Governments by KRCL so far, nor have any contractors been appointed.
- (h) Does not arise in view of (g) above.

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LOK SABHA

QUESTION NO 3990

ANSWERED ON 18.04.2002

ACCIDENTS OF SAHAYADRI NAGARI EXPRESS

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:-

- (a) whether the Government have enquired into the reasons of the accidents of Sahayadri Nagari Express which took place recently;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the steps taken to prevent such happening in future; and
- (d) the details of casualties taken place in the accident ?

ANSWER

(a) to (d) A statement is attached.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.3990 ASKED BY SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 18.04.2002 REGARDING ACCIDENT OF SAHAYADRI NAGARI EXPRESS

- (a) & (b): No, Sir. There is no such train by the name Sahayadri Nagari Express. However, on 20.02.2002, 10 coaches of 9601 Sayaji Nagari Express derailed at Udhana station of Valsad-Surat Section of Mumbai Division, Western Railway. Commissioner of Railway Safety/Western Circle is inquiring into the cause of this derailment. He has not yet submitted his Final Report.
- (c) The steps taken to prevent such mishaps are as under :-
 - (i) A non – lapsable Special Railway Safety Fund of Rs. 17,000/- crs. has been set up for renewal of over aged assets and for safety enhancement works.
 - (ii) Fouling Mark to Fouling Mark (FM to FM) track circuiting on entire ‘A’, ‘B’, ‘C’, ‘D’ and ‘D Spl.’ routes where speed is more than 75 kmph. have been completed.
 - (iii) Modification of signaling circuitry has been carried out to minimize chances of human error in causing accidents.
 - (iv) A pilot project of AWS on trial basis for Tughlakabad – Mathura section of Central Railway has been sanctioned on trial basis.
 - (v) There has been progressive increase in use of Tie Tamping and ballast cleaning machines for track maintenance. Also, Track Renewal Trains are being used.
 - (vi) For monitoring track geometry and running characteristics of the track, sophisticated track recording cars, oscillograph cars and portable accelerometers are being used progressively.
 - (vii) For detection of rail fractures/weld failures, adequate double rail Ultra Sonic Flaw Detectors have been procured. Self Propelled Ultrasonic Rail Testing Cars are being procured.
 - (viii) Stringent penalty to the extent of dismissal/removal from service is being imposed on officials causing serious accidents.
- (d) In this accident, 2 passengers lost their lives, 4 passengers were grievously injured and 12 passengers had simple injuries.

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LOK SABHA

QUESTION NO 2819

ANSWERED ON 15.03.2001

ALLOTMENT OF TELEPHONE BOOTHS

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:-

- (a) whether the Government have announced new policy in regard to allotment of telephone booths at railway stations;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and reservation made for different categories;
- (c) whether the Government have invited tender for the allotment of telephone booths in various zones;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the time by which these booths are likely to be allotted?

ANSWER

- (a) Yes, Sir.
- (b) The new policy stipulates eligibility conditions, procedure for selection of candidates, terms and conditions for allotment, monitoring system etc. Besides, the revised policy provides for 75% of the allotments to the highest bidder on open tender basis and the remaining 25% to various categories of society viz., physically handicapped persons including Blind persons, women, Other Backward classes, Scheduled Tribes, Scheduled Castes and people below poverty line.
- (c) to (e): Some of the Zonal Railways have invited tenders for allotment of space to set up STD/ISD/PCO/FAX/Internet Booths at various stations which are at different stages of finalisation.

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LOK SABHA

QUESTION NO 2657

ANSWERED ON 01.08.2002

BEAUTIFICATION OF SUB-URBAN RAILWAY STATIONS

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:-

- (a) whether Central Railway has taken up any special programme of beautification of Sub-urban railway stations recently;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the details of action plan finalised by the Government in this regard;
- (d) the estimated cost likely to be incurred thereon; and
- (e) the time by which the work on the said project is likely to be started?

ANSWER

- (a) Yes, Sir.
- (b) Encroachments/vendors obstructing free movement of passengers at entrance of stations have been removed. Improvements have also been brought out in the aesthetics and looks of the stations through continued maintenance work. Further, beautification of sub-urban stations is being done by development of gardens on either ends of platforms.
- (c) The annual repairs, improvement and maintenance is a continuous process. To further beautify, till date 98 gardens have been developed. Of these, the maintenance of gardens at Vikhroli and Ghatkopar have been handed over to non-Government organisations'.
- (d) While the expenditure on annual repairs and maintenance is a continuous process, the estimated cost of one garden varies from Rs. 20,000/- to Rs. 50,000/- depending upon the size of garden.
- (e) The work of maintenance and beautification is in progress. 98 gardens have already been developed to beautify the stations.

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LOK SABHA

QUESTION NO 4659

ANSWERED ON 19.12.2002

**CUTTING DOWN OF 784 TREES
NEAR MANKHURD VASI RAILWAY LINES**

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:-

- (a) whether Central Railway, Mumbai has taken note of cutting down 784 trees near Mankhurd Vasi Railway Lines in the 2nd week of November;
- (b) whether in order to put new hoardings and make it visible, it is suspected, that Railway Advertising Agency, private agencies have cut down these trees;
- (c) whether Railways have received representation in this regard from MPs, NGOs, BPCL, etc.;
- (d) if so, the details thereof alongwith action taken by the Government thereon;
- (e) whether Railway has received representations from commercial department and advertising agencies to remove those trees;
- (f) if so, the action taken by the Government in this regard;
- (g) whether these hoardings are put up in CRZ area;
- (h) whether mangroves were damaged to instal these hoardings;
- (i) the basis on which such permission was given by commercial department;
- (j) whether any inquiry/action has been taken against the commercial Department or other concerned; and
- (k) if so, the details of the action plan of the Government?

ANSWER

- (a) Yes, Sir. However, the trees cut down were not on Railway land.
- (b) to (k) : The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

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LOK SABHA

QUESTION NO 1018

ANSWERED ON 01.03.2001

NEW BOOKING OFFICE IN MUMBAI RAILWAY STATIONS

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:-

- (a) whether the Railway is planning to have new booking offices and new buildings at Ghatkopar, Chembur and Mulund Railway stations in Mumbai;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Railway is in need of more space in these stations;
- (d) if so, the steps taken by the Government in this regard; and
- (e) the budget provision made in this regard?

ANSWER

(a) to (e): A new booking office with 5 counters is being made at Mulund on the east side. For this purpose, a provision of approximately Rs. 20 lakhs has been made. There is a need for more space at the station but no space is available on account of public roads adjacent to the station. At Ghatkopar a new booking office is planned to be constructed in replacement to existing booking office on East side as part of Kurla-Bhandup 5th and 6th line project. Railway land is available for this purpose. As regards Chembur, there is no plan for provision of new booking office at the station.

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LOK SABHA

QUESTION NO 5133

ANSWERED ON 21.12.2000

OPENING OF MORE RESERVATION WINDOWS

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:-

- (a) whether new and additional ticket booking windows at Tilak Nagar and Kanjur Marg, Mumbai have been finalised;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the time by which the said facility is likely to be provided; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

(a) to (d): The proposal for providing additional booking windows at Tilak Nagar Railway station is being considered for inclusion in the Works Programme 2000 – 2001. As regards Kanjur Marg Railway station, as the existing booking windows are adequate to deal with the present volume of traffic, there is no justification to provide additional booking windows at this station for the present.

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LOK SABHA

QUESTION NO 3799

ANSWERED ON 08.08.2002

ENTRANCE OF KANJUR MARG EAST

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:-

- (a) whether due to completion of fifth and sixth Railway lines between Kurla and Thane the entrance of Kanjur Marg East will be closed down;
- (b) whether this problem has been brought to the notice of Railway officials by the local Member of Parliament; and
- (c) if so, the action taken by the Government to solve the problem?

ANSWER

- (a) No, Sir. The existing Foot Over Bridge through which there is entry from East side to Kanjur Marg station is being extended and the entry to Kanjur Marg station from East side will continue through the extended Foot Over Bridge.
- (b) & (c) Do not arise.

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LOK SABHA

QUESTION NO 4275

ANSWERED ON 20.04.2000

DEMOLITION OF SLUMS

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:-

- (a) whether the Central Railway slum demolition drive in Mumbai has come to an abrupt end;
- (b) if so, whether the railway tracks have become free from encroachments;
- (c) if not, the reasons for stopping the demolition drive by the Central Railway;
- (d) whether the Government have prepared any time bound programme to get free the tracks from encroachments;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

(a) to (e): As certain encroachments on Mankhurd-Kurla-Vadala section had come very close to the railway lines threatening the safety of train operations, the Commissioner of Railway Safety, Mumbai had taken up the matter with Railways for removal of these encroachments. The matter was discussed at length with the concerned officers of Government of Maharashtra. A drive was accordingly started on 28.2.2000 for eviction of post 1.1.95 encroachers and the tracks in the area have become partly free from the encroachments. After complaints that some pre 1.1.95 encroachers had also been removed, the drive was temporarily stopped by the Government of Maharashtra. The Government of Maharashtra have now decided to associate a Non Governmental Organisation in identification of the pre 1.1.95 encroachers to rehabilitate them in the tenements constructed by the Mumbai Housing and Development Authority as per their policy and simultaneously remove post 1.1.95 encroaches. Removal of post 1.1.95 encroachments is, however, being carried out in other sections of Central Railway in Mumbai.

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LOK SABHA

QUESTION NO 2924

ANSWERED ON 15.03.2001

RESETTLEMENT OF JHUGGI DWELLERS

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:-

to the reply given to Unstarred Question No.3932 on December 14, 2000 regarding resettlement of Jhuggi Dwellers and state:

- (a) whether the encroachment in the safety zone in Harbour lane in Mumbai has been removed;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) if not, the reasons for delay; and
- (d) the time by which the encroachment is likely to be removed?

ANSWER

- (a) & (b): 1322 hutments out of the remaining unauthorised constructions in Harbour line, have since been removed.
- (c) & (d): Since the process of removal of encroachments involves resettlement and rehabilitation of the encroachers being implemented by the State Govt., it has not been possible for the Railways to fix any target time for the same.

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LOK SABHA

QUESTION NO 7040

ANSWERED ON 11.05.2000

REMOVAL OF SLUM DWELLERS RESIDING ON RAILWAY LAND

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:-

- (a) whether the Supreme Court had directed the Railways to remove the slum dwellers residing near railway line in Delhi;
- (b) if so, whether the directions of the Supreme Court have been complied with; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

- (a) No, Sir.
- (b) & (c) : Do not arise.

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LOK SABHA

QUESTION NO 3689

ANSWERED ON 08.08.2002

RESETTLEMENT PROGRAMME IN MUTP

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:-

- (a) whether due consideration has been given to Project Affected Persons (PAP) and their resettlement programme in MUTP;
- (b) the number of families likely to be affected due to Railway component of MUTP;
- (c) whether the families affected by Kurla-Thane Six Line Project have been resettled;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the details about the resettlement of PAP both on Suburban Railways of Western Railway and Central Railway during the last two years?

ANSWER

- (a) Yes, Sir.
- (b) As per the latest available figures, 13,417 families are likely to be affected due to Rail components of MUTP.
- (c) & (d): The details of the families affected by Kurla-Thane 5th & 6th Line Project are given in the Appendix
- (e) The details about the resettlement of PAP both on Suburban Railways of Western Railway and Central Railway during the last two years are given in the Appendix.

APPENDIX

APPENDIX REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (c) TO (e) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3689 BY SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 08.08.2002 REGARDING RESETTLEMENT PROGRAMMME IN MUTP

(c)&(d):The details of the resettlement of families affected by Kurla-Thane 5th & 6th line project are as below:-

1. Total No. of Project Affected Persons (PAPs) to be resettled	3682
2. Total No. of Project Affected Persons (PAPs) resettled till now	2292
(i) Permanent buildings	269
(ii) Transit tenements	2023
3. No. of Project Affected Persons (PAPs) yet to be resettled	1390

Out of 1390 PAPs yet to be resettled, 121 PAPs are tenants or owners of private land and buildings at Vidyavihar. The remaining 1269 PAPs are slum dwellers

(e) The details about the resettlement of PAP both on Suburban Railways of Western Railway and Central Railway during the last two years are as below

1. Total No. of PAPs to be resettled	13417
2. Total No. of PAPs resettled till now	10736
(i) Permanent buildings	4030
(ii) Transit tenements	6706
3. No. of PAPs yet to be resettled	2681

These 2681 PAPs are to be resettled by 2004 after completion of construction of permanent buildings by Mumbai Metropolitan Region Development Authority (MMRDA).

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LOK SABHA

QUESTION NO 2734

ANSWERED ON 01.08.2002

STATIONS UNDER MUTP

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:-

- (a) whether all important stations have been covered under . MUTP to improve the traffic near railway stations in Mumbai;
- (b) if so, the details and action plan thereof;
- (c) if so, whether Dadar, Andheri, Malad, Borivali, Chembur and Ghatkopar are given priority; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof ?

ANSWER

(a) to (d): The improvement of traffic near Railway stations is not within the purview of the Railways. This activity falls under the Road component of MUTP, which is being executed by the Government of Maharashtra

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LOK SABHA

QUESTION NO 3690

ANSWERED ON 16.08.2001

SAFETY ZONE IN MUMBAI SUBURBAN RAILWAY

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:-

- (a) whether the 30 ft. safety zone in Mumbai Suburban Railways has been cleared;
- (b) the number of slums removed from the safety zone and the number of slums out of them rehabilitated;
- (c) whether the Government have planned to use salt land in Mumbai for the relocation of the slum; and
- (d) the steps taken by the Government to protect the railway land from encroachment in future in Mumbai?

ANSWER

- (a) Major portion of the area coming under safety zone has been cleared of encroachments.
- (b) Nos. removed - 10540
Nos. rehabilitated - about 9000. However, the exact position on rehabilitation is maintained by the State Govt. who are doing the rehabilitation.
- (c) Rehabilitation of the slum dwellers is being carried out by the State Govt. of Maharashtra who would have planned to utilise some of the salt land for this purpose.
- (d) The land is proposed to be protected by putting up boundary walls and fencing and also by licensing vulnerable land to Railway employees under 'Grow More Food' scheme, prompt removal of encroachments as soon as these are noticed to be coming up, and greater vigilance in this direction.

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LOK SABHA

QUESTION NO 56

ANSWERED ON 24.02.2000

FUNCTIONING OF MUMBAI VIKAS CORPORATION

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:-

- (a) whether the formalities to start the functioning of Mumbai Railway Vikas Corporation has been completed;
- (b) if so, the reasons for delay in functioning of MRVC;
- (c) whether the World Bank has agreed to finance the Mumbai Urban Transport Project-II
- (d) If so, the details thereof;
- (e) the time by which actual functioning of MRVC and MUTP II are likely to be started.
- (f) whether the Union Government had made provisions for their contributions in MRVC and MUTP in the Budget; and (g) if so, the details thereof ?

ANSWER

(a) to (g): A statement is attached.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) to (g) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 56 BY SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA TO BE ANSWERED ON 24.2.2000 REGARDING FUNCTIONING OF MUMBAI VIKAS CORPORATION

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c)&(d) : Ministry of Railways and Government of Maharashtra have agreed to approach the World Bank jointly for funding of the MUTP Projects. Discussions are presently underway in this regard. A World Bank mission had visited India in July, 1999 and held wide ranging discussions with officials of Indian Railway and Government of Maharashtra. Subsequently, projects to be executed have been identified.

These will be taken up in two phases. Phase I includes:-

1. Santa cruz- Borivali 5th line.
2. Kurla Thane 5th and 6th line.
3. Borivali-Bhayander quadrupling
4. Bhayander- Virar quadrupling
5. Western Railway Optimisation
6. Central Railway optimisation
7. DC to AC conversion
8. EMU remanufacturing

4Phase II projects are as under:-

1. 5th line Kurla-CST
2. 6th line Borivali- Santacruz
3. 12 car local line on Western Railway
4. Harbour line optimisation
5. 12 car local line on Central Railway
6. New East West line

Execution of projects in Phase I and Phase II will overlap. Rehabilitation and Resettlement(R&R) of Project Affected Persons(PAP) will form a part of both the phases. The next World Bank Mission is expected in April, 2000

(e) MRVC has already been registered as a Govt. company with the Registrar of Companies. Functioning of MRVC will start immediately after appointment of the Board of Directors for which action is on hand. Some of the rail projects identified under MUTP(II) are already under execution.

(f) & (g) : Provision for Rs. 15.00 crores for MRVC has been made in the budget for 1999-2000 towards the contribution of Ministry of Railways. The following MUTP works (along with the budget provisions for 1999-2000) are in progress :

- | | | |
|------|------------------------------|---------------|
| i. | Kurla-Thane phase I | (Rs. 25 crs) |
| ii. | Kurla-Thane phase II | (Rs. 15 crs) |
| iii. | 5th line Santacruz- Borivili | (Rs. 20 crs) |
| iv. | Borivli- Virar quadrupling | (Rs. 40 crs) |

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LOK SABHA

QUESTION NO 741

ANSWERED ON 18.07.2002

WORLD BANK LOAN FOR MRVC MUTP

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:-

- (a) whether World Bank has cleared the proposal of Railways to finance MRVC-MUTP;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether any payment has been released;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether the Railway is going to lift additional cess on the commuters of Mumbai; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

- (a) & (b): Yes, Sir. The World Bank Board of Directors have approved a loan of US\$ 364.9 million to fund the Rail component of Mumbai Urban Transport Project Phase I, (MUTP Phase I).
- (c) No, Sir.
- (d) Does not arise.
- (e) & (f): Railways propose to levy a surcharge on the Mumbai Suburban Commuters to finance the World Bank loan. The surcharge is to be levied before the award of contract for procurement of EMUs. It is expected to generate Rs.2891 crores over a 14 year period. 50% of this amount is to be given to the Ministry of Finance and 50% to Government of Maharashtra for funding the World Bank loan.

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LOK SABHA

QUESTION NO 2886

ANSWERED ON 15.03.2001

WORLD BANK LOAN TO MRVC

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:-

- (a) whether the list of items to be finalized for World Bank loan, their detailed specification and procurement schedule has been finalized in regard to MRVC;
- (b) whether the World Bank raised no objection certificate from the Government;
- (c) if so, whether any discussion has been held in this regard and the outcome thereof;
- (d) whether it is a fact that World Bank team visited MRVC in the second week of February for no objections raised by the bank.
- (e) if so, the details thereof;
- (f) whether the difference between the Ministry of Finance and her Ministry has been sorted out; and
- (g) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor ?

ANSWER

(a) to (g) : A Statement is attached

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) to (g) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2886 BY SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA TO BE ANSWERED ON 15.3.2001 REGARDING WORLD BANK LOAN TO MRVC.

(a) to (c) : At present only detailed specifications and bid documents for procurement of rolling stock and equipment proposed to be funded by the World Bank loan are being finalised, as per World Bank guide lines and based on Indian Railways' requirements.

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(f)&(g): The on-lending arrangement of World Bank loan between Ministry of Finance and Ministry of Railways is at present under discussion.

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LOK SABHA

QUESTION NO 7629

ANSWERED ON 16.05.2002

EXPANSION OF KURLA TERMINUS

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:-

- (a) whether the Railway has announced expansion of temporary structure of Kurla Terminus in Mumbai;
- (b) if so, whether the Government are aware that commuters are facing hardship due to the said work;
- (c) if so, whether the Government have also received various representation in this regard;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

ANSWER

- (a) No, sir.
- (b) to (e) : Do not arise.

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LOK SABHA

QUESTION NO 3390

ANSWERED ON 16.03.2000

OPENING OF GOODS LINE FOR PASSENGER TRAFFIC

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:-

- (a) whether the Government have received any requests for use of goods line between Kurla and Mahul for passenger traffic as well ; and
- (b) if so, the response of the Government thereto ?

ANSWER

- (a) & (b): A request was received from the Chembur Passenger Association for starting passenger services from Kurla to Mahul. The area served by the Kurla-Trombay Single Line is well catered to by the BEST bus services with a frequency of less than 7 minutes. Also, buses in the area provide connectivity not only to Kurla but also to places like Ghatkopar. Therefore, using Kurla-Mahul goods line for passenger services is not being considered by the Railways at present.

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LOK SABHA

QUESTION NO 7657

ANSWERED ON 16.05.2002

150TH YEAR CELEBRATION DAY

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:-

- (a) whether the Railways will consider the request to keep open the historical train run on 150th year Celebration Day in Mumbai and keep it on the common public exhibition;
- (a) whether a special train just like the first train of India was operated between Mumbai and Thane;
- (b) if so, the details thereof stating the special features of the train;
- (c) whether any representation has been received in this regard; and
- (d) if so, the Government's viewpoint thereon?

ANSWER

- (a) & (b) : Yes, Sir.
- (c) The train is hauled by a steam engine and runs between Mumbai and Thane.
- (d) Some prominent citizens have represented in this regard.
- (e) The Government has agreed to the proposal in principle.

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LOK SABHA

QUESTION NO 1635

ANSWERED ON 28.11.2002

INTRODUCTION OF BULLET TRAINS

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:-

- (a) whether the Government have decided to start bullet trains on Konkan Railways;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the time by which the said trains are likely to be started;
- (d) whether the Government propose to start more bullet trains in the country; and
- (e) if so, the details there of ?

ANSWER

- (a) No, Sir.
- (b) to (e) : Do not arise.

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LOK SABHA

QUESTION NO 4774

ANSWERED ON 19.12.2002

LEVYING CESS FROM MUMBAI COMMUTERS

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:-

- (a) whether Railway Board has finally decided to start levying cess from Mumbai commuters;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the time by which it is likely to be started;
- (c) whether the Government propose to start cess after some progress in MRVC;
- (d) whether commuters organizations and Members of Parliament have requested that cess be levied only after benefits are made available to commuters; and
- (e) if so, the details about the cess and Government's viewpoint and response thereto?

ANSWER

(a) to (e) : A Statement is attached.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4774 BY SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 19.12.2002 REGARDING LEVYING CESS FROM MUMBAI COMMUTERS

- (a) to (c) : Mumbai Urban Transport Project is funded by World Bank. Levy of surcharge on Mumbai Suburban Commuters is as per World Bank's requirement and had been agreed to by the Government of Maharashtra and Ministry of Railways, who equally share the cost of the project. The surcharge may not be levied before the next financial year. The total surcharge to be raised will be Rs. 2891 crores in a period of 14 years. Out of the amount so collected, 50% will be passed on to Government of Maharashtra; balance 50% share of Indian Railways will be passed on to Ministry of Finance to enable repayment of the loan taken from World Bank.
- (d) No such request has been received.
- (e) Does not arise.

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LOK SABHA

QUESTION NO 2877

ANSWERED ON 21.03.2002

LOSSES TO KONKAN RAILWAYS

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:-

- (a) whether Konkan Railway is running into heavy losses;
- (b) if so, the details about losses, differences, repayment of loans during the last three years;
- (c) the reasons therefor;
- (d) whether his Ministry has taken up steps to get back the contribution from the State Government;
- (e) if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) the steps taken by the Government to make Konkan Railways more efficient and self supported?

ANSWER

(a) to (f): A statement is attached.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (f) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2877 TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 21.03.2002 BY SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA REGARDING LOSSES TO KONKAN RAILWAYS

(a) to (c): The Corporation is able to meet its working expenses from the revenue generated. However, on accounts of provisions required to be made for the financing cost incurred on market borrowings during the construction phase and on depreciation, the Corporation is showing a loss in its Balance Sheet. The net loss during 1998-99, 1999-2000 and 2000-01 was Rs. 340 crores, Rs. 385 crores and Rs. 382 crores respectively. The redemption of bonds made by KRCL is Rs.445.09 crores.

(d)&(e): Yes, Sir. State Governments who have not yet paid their full equity amount are being regularly chased. The details of equity amount yet to be realised from various States is as follows:

Government of Maharashtra	-	Rs.17.1550 crores
Government of Kerala	-	Rs. 0.3879 crores
Government of Goa	-	Rs. 5.2380 crores

The State Governments are also not sharing the liabilities arising out of debt servicing.

(f) The Corporation has made out a Business Plan enumerating various steps being taken to increase their revenue. These are as follows:

i) Augmentation of traffic earnings by carrying out a strong marketing drive.

ii) Marketing its construction expertise by:

- Trying to bid for international contracts for railway construction.
- Taking up specialised construction works such as highways and tunneling within the country.

iii) Pursuing Sky Bus Metro System in domestic and international market.

iv) Implementing the installation, after testing, of an Anti- Collision Device (ACD) developed by the KRC on the Indian Railway system.

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LOK SABHA

QUESTION NO 1960

ANSWERED ON 29.11.2001

PROVISION OF SEPARATE BEDS FOR HIV PATIENTS

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:-

- (a) whether special and separate beds are being made available for HIV patients in Railway Hospitals;
- (b) if not, the protection the railways are likely to be taken for this;
- (c) whether HIV treatments are made available in Central Railways Hospital at Kalyan near Mumbai;
- (d) if so, whether 699 patients out of 1000 admitted found to have HIV positive;
- (e) whether there is any awareness campaign programme for HIV-AIDS in Railways; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

- (a) No discrimination is made against HIV positive persons. They are admitted in the hospitals and treated like any other patients. Thus it may be mentioned that there are no special and separate beds for HIV positive patients in Railway Hospitals.
- (b) Railways are taking universal aseptic precautions, scrupulous screening of blood and blood products, disposal of hospital wastes in a hygienic manner etc. Medical and para-medical staff strictly observes precautions.
- (c) Kalyan hospital is a divisional hospital and as per National AIDS Control Organisation(NACO) guidelines, anti-retroviral drugs are not administered in this country. However, they are treated for opportunistic infections as per the needs in conformity with NACO guidelines.
- (d) No Sir. Persons admitted in the hospitals are not tested for HIV in a routine manner and no such study was done.
- (e) There is a continuous programme for building up and sustaining awareness among railway population. Railways are one of the first organisations to start such a campaign.
- (f) Training programmes for medical offices, para-medicals, public, affected persons, their family members is a continuous programme and is being continued as per NACO guidelines in all Railway Zones.

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LOK SABHA

QUESTION NO 5902

ANSWERED ON 26.04.2001

RAILWAY CLAIM TRIBUNALS

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:-

- (a) the number of railway claim tribunals in Western Railways particularly in Mumbai;
- (b) the expenditure incurred on railway claims tribunals in Mumbai during the last three years;
- (c) the number of claim cases decided in Mumbai by claim tribunals during the said period;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) the total amount of rent paid by the Railways for the offices of claims tribunals during the last three years;
- (f) whether there is any plan to construct its own building by Railways; (g) if so, the details thereof, and
- (h) if not, the reason therefor?

ANSWER

- (a) There are three Claims Tribunal Benches over Western Railway i.e. Ahmedabad, Jaipur & Mumbai.

In Mumbai there is only one Bench of Claims Tribunal.

- (b) Total expenditure incurred during the last three years in Mumbai Bench of Claims Tribunal is as follows :-

(Figures in thousand rupees)

1998-99	1999-2000	2000-2001
3335	3326	3330

- (c) & (d) : Total claim cases decided during the last three years:-

1998-99	1999-2000	2000-2001
341	498	281

- (e) Railway Claims Tribunal, Mumbai is paying no rent. The Tribunal is located in the Railway building.
- (f) No, Sir.
- (g) & (h): Do not arise.

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LOK SABHA

QUESTION NO 5201

ANSWERED ON 21.12.2000

SUPPLY OF CASSEROLES TO WESTERN RAILWAY

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:-

- (a) whether there is any controversy between Railway quality control agency and Western Railway over foil casseroles which were supplied by Hindalco Industries;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the consignment was rejected earlier by the inspecting engineer of RITES;
- (d) if so, the reasons for approving the same consignment for supply to Western Railway;
- (e) whether favouritism and partiality has been done by awarding the tender to the company which was not in race of getting the job as per the prescribed norms;
- (f) if so, the facts in this regard and the reasons therefor; and (g) the action being taken by the Government against those found involved in this scam?

ANSWER

- (a) & (b) No, Sir. There is no controversy between Western Railway and quality control agency over supply of foil casseroles by Hindalco Industries. However, the supplies made by M/s. Hindalco Industries subsequent to their offer being accepted in respect of the tender opened on 12.05.2000, were rejected because they failed to meet the specifications of size as also the fact that the Indian Railway logo was not embossed on the casseroles.
- (c) No, Sir.
- (d) Does not arise.
- (e) & (f) : The contract has been awarded by Western Railway after following necessary prescribed norms, rules and regulations. As such the question of favouritism does not arise. The Railway has followed all norms while rejecting the consignment by conducting a joint inspection by Western Railway alongwith representative of the supplying firms and RITES.
- (g) Does not arise.

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